

Dear House Health Care Committee,

I am a family nurse practitioner and primary care provider and urge you to support HB 3063, which seeks to end non-medical exemption to vaccination in Oregon.

Measles is a highly contagious and deadly disease. Before we had a measles vaccine, millions died every year worldwide from this deadly disease. Most people who died then, still die today, and will continue to die as measles spreads in 2019 are children under 5 years old.

It is well established that some public policy is important for maintaining the health and safety of the community. Drunk driving is one example. We have policies that do not allow people to drink alcohol, get drunk, and drive cars because this puts the public at risk and people die.

Measles and other vaccine preventable diseases are no different. When parents are allowed to not vaccinate their children, send them to public school, and spread diseases like measles, other children and vulnerable adults get very sick and some will die. This is an appropriate time for state policy makers to step in to protect the health and safety of the public by eliminating non-medical exemptions for vaccination in the state of Oregon.

Thank you for protecting the health and safety of Oregonians,

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Constituent of Oregon House District 41 and Oregon Senate District 21